

ACQUIRED BONE MARROW FAILURE DISEASE RESEARCH AND TREATMENT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1230, the Acquired Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act.

Every year, it is estimated that between 20,000 and 30,000 Americans are diagnosed with some form of acquired bone marrow failure disease.

This classification of diseases, which include myelodysplastic syndromes (commonly known as MDS), aplastic anemia, paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (known as PNH), and others, take a debilitating and deadly toll on those diagnosed, forcing patients and families to deal with significant health, social, and economic hardships.

In some cases, MDS can even progress over time to become leukemia, which affects hundreds of thousands of Americans in its own right.

And while individuals stricken with these conditions can take some action to prolong their lives, this diagnosis offers little hope that affected patients will ever fully recover.

In light of this, I introduced the Acquired Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act to enhance and intensify current and future efforts in the fight against bone marrow failure diseases.

This legislation would support increased research on these still relatively unstudied diseases, including what genetic and environmental factors may be associated with the condition and best practices for the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases.

In addition, the bill would authorize coordinated outreach and informational programs targeted to minority populations affected by these diseases, including information on treatment options and clinical trials research.

These provisions are critical to the individuals affected by bone marrow failure diseases and their families, as it would bring both tangible progress to fighting these diseases, and provide hope to those who have suffered their effects.

This bill has bipartisan support, 62 cosponsors, and has incorporated suggestions from both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I commend our Leadership and thank Chairman WAXMAN and Chairman PALLONE and their staff for bringing H.R. 1230 to the floor, and for their commitment to protecting the health of all Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support passage of this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

TAIWAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, on October 10, 2010, the Republic of China will celebrate its 99th anniversary.

The government now in Taiwan was founded in mainland China before it was pushed out by a brutal, communist regime. The differences between the two governments today is stark. While Taiwan flourishes as a democracy marked by passionate elections, China suppresses all political opposition, torturing and imprisoning anyone who dares to disagree. And yet we let China into regional and world bodies but keep the ROC out.

For example, Taiwan is not a member of the International Civil Aviation Organization. That means that when world leaders get together to talk about aviation regulation, Taiwan and the 35 million people that fly in and out of it each year are completely unrepresented.

So I urge my colleagues, on this 99th anniversary of the Republic of China, to call on the leaders in Beijing to allow Taiwan to participate in ICAO and other key international organizations like it.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of the celebration of their 99th anniversary. Although it is commonly known as "Double Ten Day," this year, the anniversary can be called "Triple Ten Day," as it falls on the tenth day of the tenth month of the tenth year of this millennium.

This important date commemorates the Wuchang Uprising of October 10, 1911, which was the impetus for the fall of the Qing Dynasty in China, leading to the creation a few months later of the Republic of China, commonly known as Taiwan.

October 10 is the National Celebration Day in Taiwan. It is as important to the Taiwanese people as the Fourth of July is to Americans, and many American cities, including Chicago and San Francisco, have large celebrations to mark the occasion.

Sadly, the destruction and devastation caused by Typhoon Morakot last year caused Taiwanese President a to cancel the national festivities to pay respect to those who had lost their lives. Additionally, funds normally used for celebration were instead used to aid victims of the disaster.

Today, Taiwan is a valued partner of the United States and I extend my best wishes to Taiwan for a wonderful 99th anniversary this year, and I look forward to celebrating their 100th anniversary with them next year.

RECOGNIZING THE COMMUNITY OF NORTH PLAINS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial anniversary of the

community of North Plains, Oregon. The celebration being held on Saturday October 2, 2010, is a tribute to the residents of North Plains, both past and present, whose years of hard work, persistence, and endurance is a reflection of the values embodied by their community.

North Plains is situated at the base of Oregon's Coastal Range, which houses one of Oregon's finest watersheds. North Plains is home to Pumpkin Ridge golf course and Bob Horning's hideout, whose music festivals and frisbee golf course attract visitors from across the country, along with numerous other locally owned businesses. At the heart of the North Plains community are picturesque farms, nurseries, and wineries which produce everything from Christmas trees and Halloween pumpkins to small fruits and world class wines. Each August, North Plains celebrates its agricultural heritage by hosting the world's largest elephant garlic festival—an event my kids and I look forward to participating in on our way to camping at nearby Stub Stewart State park, our most recently dedicated state park.

Former Oregon Governor Tom McCall once said: "Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say, This is my community, and it is my responsibility to make it better." The residents of North Plains are American heroes who have devoted their lives to making our country and their community better.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating North Plains on this remarkable achievement. North Plains' history of land stewardship has been an asset to our state and region, and it serves as a model to be emulated. I am proud to serve a community with such a strong commitment to the livelihoods of its families, and I look forward to hearing of North Plains' ongoing successes in the years to come.

MARGARET-LEE THOMPSON

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of a constituent whose lifetime of passionate and intensive work on behalf of developmentally disabled children and adults has been recognized at a national level.

Margaret-Lee Thompson, a resident of Redmond, Washington, and the coordinator of the King County Parent Coalition for Development Disabilities, was awarded the "Advocacy Matters!" honor by the Arc of the United States because of her efforts and courageous advocacy.

Ms. Thompson's adult son, Dan, has lived with disabilities his entire life. While focusing wholly on the daily needs of her son, Madam Speaker, Ms. Thompson identified a variety of inconsistent and wrong-headed policies and practices at different levels of government and local organizations. In 1990, seizing on a six-month grant opportunity to bring parents of the developmentally disabled and policy makers together, Margaret founded the Parent Coalition. Twenty years later, Ms. Thompson is nationally recognized as a committed, veteran leader of an incredibly worthy movement. Her work and advocacy have changed hearts and minds, Madam Speaker.